CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	3d4b02db-04ee-4d05-8b5a-d618c71b8bb5.jpg
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1800360.004
Medium:	Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	15 October 2018
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	15 October 2018

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image depicts the face of a female and shows the aftermath of extreme sexual activity. The Classification Office has considered whether the publication promotes or supports, or tends to promote or support, the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes in terms of s 3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 and has concluded that it does not. The subject in the image is youthful but does not unequivocally present as a young person, nor are there any additional elements that direct the viewer to regard her as such. The publication's unrestricted availability is however likely to be injurious to the public good. The image is an explicit and somewhat degrading and dehumanising record of the aftermath of extreme sexual activity. There is a strong potential for harm in exposing children and teenagers to images such as this before they are developmentally ready. It is likely to negatively affect the development of their attitudes toward sex and their understanding of adult sexual relationships. Images such as this are also likely to create unrealistic expectations of women and normalise extreme sexual behaviours. Adults are likely to have the mature understanding of sexual matters required to contextualise the image. The image file is therefore classified as objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years. While this restriction limits the right to freedom of expression found in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, it is considered reasonable and demonstrably justifiable in the interests of preventing injury to the public good.